SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR RESOLVING CLUSTER PARTITIONS IN OUT-OF-BAND STORAGE VIRTUALIZATION ENVIRONMENTS

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

[0082]   Systems, methods, apparatus and software can configure, support, and make use of a coordinator virtual device to determine which node or nodes of a cluster should be ejected from the cluster as a result of a cluster partition or other error event. Fencing software operating on the cluster nodes monitors the cluster for a cluster partition (split-brain) event, and when such an event occurs, software on the nodes attempts to gain control of the coordinator virtual device. A node that succeeds in gaining control of the coordinator virtual device survives. Nodes failing to gain control of the coordinator virtual device remove themselves or are removed from the cluster. The coordinator virtual device can be established by a virtual device configuration server which provides coordinator virtual device access to cluster nodes acting as virtual device configuration clients.